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Dated: August 3, 2007  
Electronic Signature for Izumi Yokoyama, Ph.D.: /Izumi Yokoyama, Ph.D./

Docket No.: V9661.0069  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of: Joseph S. Peiris et al.	Confirmation No.: 2460
Application No.: 10/808,121	Art Unit: 1648
Filed: March 24, 2004	Examiner: L. Humphrey
For: A NOVEL HUMAN VIRUS CAUSING SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME (SARS) AND USES THEREOF	New York, NY August 3, 2007

**URGENT STATUS INQUIRY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the attorney named below be urgently advised of the status of the above-identified application. Applicants filed an Amendment after Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 ("Amendment") on April 4, 2007, which was within two months from the issuance of the Final Action on February 7, 2007.

The undersigned phoned Examiner Humphrey on July 17, 2007 and today and was informed that the application had been considered allowable and forwarded to a special committee for the final review. However, we have not received any communication from the Office since our submission of the Amendment. Since the six-month date from the issuance of the Final Action is **August 7, 2007**, unless we hear from the Office by the date, Applicants will have no choice but to file a Notice of Appeal together with a petition for extension of time for three (3) months with the fees, in order to keep the application alive. Considering the probable allowance of the application, the undersigned respectfully

and urgently request that the Office advise us of the status of the application **as soon as possible.**

Dated: August 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,  
Electronic signature: /Izumi Yokoyama,  
Ph.D./  
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